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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
09/939,814	08/28/2001	Satoshi Ejima	032440.01	3963	
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OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC			VU, NGOO	VU, NGOC YEN T	
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			2612	2612	
			DATE MAILED: 09/08/2004	5	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

		Application No.	Annicont/o			
Office Action Summary		Application No.	Applicant(s)			
		09/939,814	EJIMA ET AL.			
		Examiner	Art Unit			
		Ngoc-Yen T. Vu	2612			
The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply						
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely. - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). - Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).						
Status						
1)	Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 Au	igust 2001.				
·	This action is FINAL . 2b)⊠ This action is non-final.					
3)	Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under <i>Ex parte Quayle</i> , 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.					
Disposit	ion of Claims					
4) Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration. 5) □ Claim(s) is/are allowed. 6) □ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are rejected. 7) □ Claim(s) is/are objected to. 8) □ Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.						
Application Papers						
 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner. 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on 28 August 2001 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner. Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d). 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152. 						
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119						
 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 08/965,200. 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received. 						
2) Notice 3) Information	t(s) te of References Cited (PTO-892) te of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) mation Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) or No(s)/Mail Date 5.	4) Interview Summary Paper No(s)/Mail Da 5) Notice of Informal P 6) Other:				

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Priority

Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority under 35
 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d). The certified copy has been filed in parent Application No. 08/965,200, filed on 11/06/1997.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The information disclosure statement, filed 08/28/2001, has been placed in the application file, and the information referred to therein has been considered as to the merits.

Specification

3. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claim Objections

4. Claim 9 is objected to because of the following informalities: line 4, the recitation "wherein:" should have been changed to --wherein--. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

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(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

5. Claims 1-2, 6, 13, 14, 18, 20, 21, and 26-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Lee (US #5,635,984).

Regarding claim 1, Lee teaches an information processing apparatus, comprising: imaging means (see Fig. 3, video input 1, A/D 2) for producing image information representative of images (see col. 3 lines 22-24);

memory means (see Fig. 3, buffer memory 3 and main memory 4) for storing the image information produced by said imaging means (see col. 3 lines 25-27);

selection means (Fig. 3, picture selector 8, microcomputer 9) for selecting images corresponding to the image information from among the image information stored in said memory means (see col. 3 lines 32-52);

reduction means (Fig. 3, multi-picture controller 10 and main memory 4) for reducing the image selected by said selection means (see col. 3 lines 53 - col. 5 line 28; col. 6 lines 14-53); and

display control means (Fig. 3, multi-picture controller 10, reproducing buffer memory 5, and D/A 6) for displaying on a screen (Fig. 3, picture display 7) the reduced images reduced by said reduction means (col. 5 line 28 - col. 6 line 13),

wherein when a plurality of the images are selected by said selection means, said display control means displays the reduced images so that the reduced images are arranged in a

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designated order on said screen in correspondence with the order in which the images were selected by said selection means (see Figs. 11A-F, col. 6 line 21 - col. 7 line 67).

As to claim 2, Lee teaches that the information processing apparatus further comprises partition means (Figs. 4-5, multi-picture controller 10) for partitioning the screen into a plurality of smaller screens in accordance with the number of the images selected by said selection means (picture selector 8 and controller 9), wherein said display control means displays each of the reduced images on a corresponding area of said smaller screens (see col. 3 line 40 - col. 5 line 28).

As to claim 6, Lee teaches that the display means displays the images (see Fig. 11A) and the reduced images (see Figs. 11B-E).

an image input device (see Fig. 3, video input 1, A/D 2; see col. 3 lines 22-24); a memory (see Fig. 3, buffer memory 3 and main memory 4) which stores the images that have been input by said image input device (see col. 3 lines 25-27);

Regarding claim 13, Lee teaches an information processing apparatus, comprising:

a selector (Fig. 3, picture selector 8 and main controller 9) which selects images from among the images stored in said memory (see col. 3 lines 32-52);

a controller (Fig. 3, multi-controller 10 and main memory 4) which reduces the images selected by said selector (8/9), and displays on a screen (Fig. 3, picture display 7) the reduced images (col. 5 line 28 - col. 6 line 13), wherein when a plurality of the images are selected, said controller displays the reduced images arranged in a designated order on said screen in

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correspondence with the order in which the images were selected (see Figs. 11A-F, col. 6 line 21 - col. 7 line 67).

As to claim 14, Lee teaches that said controller (see Figs. 4-5, multi-controller 10) partitions the screen into a plurality of smaller screens in accordance with the number of the images selected, and displays each of the reduced images on at least one of said smaller screens (see col. 3 line 40 - col. 5 line 28).

As to claim 18, Lee teaches a display (see Fig. 3, picture display 7) which display the images (see Fig. 11A) and the reduced images (see Figs. B-E).

Regarding claim 20, Lee teaches a method for processing and displaying images, comprising the steps of

selecting images from among a plurality of stored images (see col. 3 lines 32-52); reducing the selected images (see col. 3 lines 53 - col. 5 line 28; col. 6 lines 14-53); and displaying the reduced images in a designated order in correspondence with the order in which the images were selected (see Figs. 11A-F, col. 6 line 21 - col. 7 line 67).

As to claim 21, Lee teaches that the method further comprising the steps of:

partitioning a screen on which the reduced images are displayed into a plurality of
smaller screens in accordance with the number of the images selected (see col. 3 line 40 - col. 5
line 28); and

displaying each of the reduced images on at least one of said smaller screens (col. 6 line 21 - col. 7 line 67).

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As to claim 26, Lee teaches that prior to said selecting step, imaging an object to create said images (see col. 3 lines 22-26), and storing said images in a memory (Fig. 3, buffer 3 and main memory 4) from which the images are selected (see col. 3 lines 26-52).

Regarding claim 27, Lee teaches an information processing apparatus comprising:
a selector (Fig. 3, picture selector 8 and main controller 9) that selects images from
among a plurality of images stored in a memory (see Fig. 3, buffer memory 3 and main memory
4) (see col. 3 lines 32-52);

a controller (Fig. 3, multi-controller 10 and main memory 4) that reduces the selected images and displays on a screen (Fig. 3, picture display 7) the reduced images (col. 5 line 28 - col. 6 line 13), wherein when a plurality of the images are selected, said controller displays the reduced images arranged in a designated order on said screen in correspondence with the order in which the images were selected (see Figs. 11A-F, col. 6 line 21 - col. 7 line 67).

As to claim 28, Lee teaches that said controller (see Figs. 4-5, multi-controller 10) partitions the screen into a plurality of smaller screens in accordance with the number of the images selected, and displays each of the reduced images on at least one of said smaller screens (see col. 3 line 40 - col. 5 line 28).

As to claim 29, Lee teaches that said plurality of images include photographed images (see col. 3 lines 22-52).

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This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

- (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.
- 6. Claims 3, 15 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee (US #5,635,984) in view of Katsuta et al. (US # Re. 33,316).

As to claim 3, the claim differs from Lee in that it further requires reduced image selection means for selecting images from among the reduced images, wherein when the images selected from among the reduced images are selected by said reduced image selection means, said display control means displays on said screen the images corresponding to the reduced

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images prior to reduction thereof. Although Lee fails to show reduced image selection means for selecting images from among the reduced images, Lee shows that images are stored in the main memory (4) while the corresponding reduced images are stored in the reproducing buffer memory (5), and the images stored in the memory (4) are selected by the picture selector (8) and the microcomputer (9) (see col. 3 lines 22-52).

In the same field of endeavor, in figure 1, Katsuta teaches an apparatus for cataloging and retrieving images data comprising a scanner (19) for optical reading an original and converting it into primary image data (col. 2 lines 40-43), memories (15/20) for storing the primary image data outputted from the scanner (19) (col. 2 lines 32-33, lines 43-45), and a compression/expansion circuit (18) for compressing the primary image data (col. 2 lines 36-40). Katsuta also teaches that the compressed or reduced primary image data are stored in the memory (20) along with the corresponding primary image data (see col. 2 lines 43-45; col. 2 line 48 - col. 3 line 23), and a CRT (12) for displaying both the primary image data and the reduced primary image data (col. 2 lines 18-23). For the purpose of speedily retrieving primary data. Katsuta further teaches a keyboard (11) for selecting images among the reduced primary image data (col. 3 lines 36-40; col. 4 lines 38-42; col. 5 lines 17-22), wherein when the images selected from among the reduced primary data are selected by the keyboard (11), the CPU (13) displays on the CRT (12) the images corresponding to the reduced primary data prior to reduction thereof (see col. 3 lines 56-61; col. 4 lines 42-45; col. 5 lines 23-33). In light of the teaching from Katsuta, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention

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was made to modify the multi-picture control circuit of Lee by providing means for selecting images among the reduced images and displaying the images corresponding to the selected reduced images prior to reduction thereof so as to provide an efficient search of the images by means of the reduced image data. The modification thus provides the multi-picture control circuit disclosed in Lee the capability of searching and retrieving the image data using the corresponding reduced image data in an effective and efficient manner.

As to claim 15, the limitations claimed in claim 15 can be found in claim 3. Therefore, claim 15 is analyzed and rejected as previously discussed with respect to claim 3.

As to claim 22, claim 22 is a method claim corresponding to the apparatus claim 3. Therefore, method claim 22 is analyzed and rejected as previously discussed with respect to the apparatus claim 3.

7. Claims 4, 5, 7, 16, 17, 19, and 23-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee (US #5,635,984) in view of Yanker (US #5,187,776), and further in view of Kashiwagi et al. (US #6,037,939).

As to claim 4, the claim differs from Lee in that it further requires line drawing input means for inputting line drawings, wherein said memory means stores the line drawings that have been input by said line drawing input means, and when the line drawings input by said line drawing input means are made to correspond to the images selected by said selection means, said reduction means reduces the line drawings stored in said memory means, and said display

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control means display the line drawings reduced by said reduction means along with the reduced images. However, the above limitations are well known in the art as shown in Yanker and Kashiwagi.

In figures 1-2, Yanker teaches an information processing system comprising line drawing input means (key board 6, mouse 7 and CPU 2; see col. 2 lines 45-50, col. 2 line 63 - col. 3 line 5), memory means (memory 4 and display memory 1) for storing the line drawings that have been input by said line drawing means (see col. 2 lines 33-62), display control means (CPU 2) for displaying on a screen (display 10) images and line drawings which are made to correspond to the images (see col. 6 lines 19-55). Yanker further teaches that the information inputted by the key board 6 and the mouse 7 such as text, line, sketches, boxes, etc. within a zoom window will be displayed enlarged to the current zoom level of the image (see col. 3 lines 32-55; col. 6 lines 19-65). In light of the teaching from Yanker, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the information processing apparatus disclosed in Lee by providing line drawing input means associated with selected images so as to allow additional information to be edited to the selected images without a separated editing process. The modification would provide the information processing apparatus of Lee an editing system having the capability of user input anywhere on the image frame.

With respect to the limitation that the reduction means reduces the line drawings stored in said memory means and said display control means displays the line drawings reduced by said reduction means along with the reduced images, although Lee, as modified by Yanker, does not

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specifically teach the reduction means reduces the line drawings stored in said memory means, Yanker does teach that the information inputted by the line drawing input means (key board 6 and the mouse 7) such as text, line, sketches, boxes, etc. within a zoom window will be displayed enlarged to the current zoom level of the image (see col. 3 lines 32-55; col. 6 lines 19-65). The teaching thus suggests that additional information of an image within a display window is operable in whatever zoom level of the image is currently in effect. In the same field of endeavor, in figure 18, Kashiwagi teaches an information processing apparatus (6) comprising a multi-window display device (405a), a storage device (403), a CPU (401), and a graphics process section (402). Kashiwagi further teaches that graphics content within a display window are resized such as zoomed or reduced as the display is resized (see col. 23 line 41 - col. 24 line 24; col. 25 line 56 - col. 26 line 32). In light of the teaching from Kashiwagi, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the information processing apparatus of Lee and Yanker by reducing the line drawings and displaying the line drawings reduced along with the reduced images, as taught in Kashiwagi, so that the line drawings associated with the images will be properly displayed when the images are zoomed or reduced. The modification would provide the information processing apparatus of Lee and Yanker the capability of properly displaying the images along with its edited information even when the images are zoomed or reduced.

As to claim 5, Lee, as modified by Yanker and Kashiwagi, teaches that when the line drawings stored in said memory means have been selected by said selection means, said

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reduction means reduces the line drawings, and said display control means displays the reduced line drawings that comprise the line drawings reduced by said reduction means (Kashiwagi, col. 23 line 41 - col. 24 line 24; col. 25 line 56 - col. 26 line 32).

As to claim 7, Lee, as modified by Yanker and Kashiwagi, teaches that the display means displays line drawings and reduced line drawings (see Yanker, col. 3 lines 32-55; col. 6 lines 19-65)(see Kashiwagi, col. 23 line 41 - col. 24 line 24; col. 25 line 56 - col. 26 line 32).

As to claim 16, the limitations claimed in claim 16 can be found in claim 4. Therefore, claim 16 is analyzed and rejected as previously discussed with respect to claim 4.

As to claim 17, the limitations claimed in claim 17 can be found in claim 5. Therefore, claim 17 is analyzed and rejected as previously discussed with respect to claim 5.

As to claim 19, the limitations claimed in claim 16 can be found in claim 7. Therefore, claim 19 is analyzed and rejected as previously discussed with respect to claim 7.

As to claims 23-25, claims 23-25 are method claims corresponding to the apparatus claim 3. Therefore, method claims 23-25 are analyzed and rejected as previously discussed with respect to the apparatus claim 3.

8. Claim 30 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee (US #5,635,984) in view of Yanker (US #5,187,776).

As to claim 30, claim 30 differs from Lee in that the claim further requires the plurality of images include line drawings. However, the above limitation is well known in the art as shown in Yanker.

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In figures 1-2, Yanker teaches an information processing system comprising line drawing input means (key board 6, mouse 7 and CPU 2; see col. 2 lines 45-50, col. 2 line 63 - col. 3 line 5), memory means (memory 4 and display memory 1) for storing the line drawings that have been input by said line drawing means (see col. 2 lines 33-62), display control means (CPU 2) for displaying on a screen (display 10) images and line drawings which are made to correspond to the images (see col. 6 lines 19-55). Yanker further teaches that the information inputted by the keyboard 6 and the mouse 7 such as text, line, sketches, boxes, etc. within a zoom window will be displayed along with the images (see col. 3 lines 32-55; col. 6 lines 19-65). In light of the teaching from Yanker, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the information processing apparatus disclosed in Lee by providing line drawing input means associated with selected images so as to allow additional information to be edited to the selected images without a separated editing process. The modification would provide the information processing apparatus of Lee an editing system having the capability of user input anywhere on the image frame.

9. Claims 8-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee (US #5,635,984) in view of Anderson (US #5,903,309).

Regarding claim 8, Lee teaches an information processing apparatus which:
enable selection of a plurality of images stored in a memory of the information
processing apparatus (see col. 3 lines 32-52);

reduce the selected images (see col. 3 lines 53 - col. 5 line 28; col. 6 lines 14-53); and displaying the plurality of reduced images on a display screen in a designated order in

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correspondence with the order in which the images were selected (see col. 6 line 21 - col. 7 line 67).

Claim 8 differs from Lee in that the claim requires a recording medium on which is recorded a computer readable control program for used by the information processing apparatus, wherein the control program including instructions causing the information processing apparatus to enable selection of the plurality of images, reduce the selected images, and display the plurality of reduced images on the display screen. In the same field of endeavor, Anderson teaches a method and system for displaying a series of images captured by an electronic camera (see Fig. 2, imaging device 114) wherein the raw or unprocessed image data captured by the electronic camera (114) are transferred to a computer (see Fig. 3, computer 118) for processing and displaying a series of images captured by the electronic camera (see col. 2 line 65 - col. 3 line 57). Anderson further teaches a ROM (350) (see Fig. 3) on which is recorded a computerreadable control program for use by the electronic camera (see col. 3 lines 58-60). Anderson teaches in column 1, lines 13-35, that the efficient operation of the computer can significantly effect the operational efficiency of the entire electronic camera system. In light of the teaching from Anderson, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the information processing apparatus of Lee by providing the apparatus with a recording medium on which a computer-readable control program can be used by the apparatus so as to significantly increase the operational efficiency of the apparatus, as taught in Anderson.

As to claim 9, Lee, as modified by Anderson, teaches that the control program further includes instructions to:

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partition the display screen into a plurality of smaller screens in accordance with the number of selected images (see Lee, col. 3 line 40 - col. 5 line 28), and wherein

each reduced image is displayed in a corresponding one of the smaller screens (see Lee, Figs. 11A-11E).

As to claim 10, Lee teaches that said plurality of images include photographed images (see col. 3 lines 22-52).

10. Claims 11-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee in view of Anderson, as applied to claim 8 and 10 above, and further in view of Yanker (US #5,187,776).

As to claims 11-12, claims 11-12 differs from Lee, as modified by Anderson, in that the claim further requires the plurality of images include line drawings. However, the above limitation is well known in the art as shown in Yanker.

In figures 1-2, Yanker teaches an information processing system comprising line drawing input means (key board 6, mouse 7 and CPU 2; see col. 2 lines 45-50, col. 2 line 63 - col. 3 line 5), memory means (memory 4 and display memory 1) for storing the line drawings that have been input by said line drawing means (see col. 2 lines 33-62), display control means (CPU 2) for displaying on a screen (display 10) images and line drawings which are made to correspond to the images (see col. 6 lines 19-55). Yanker further teaches that the information inputted by the keyboard 6 and the mouse 7 such as text, line, sketches, boxes, etc. within a zoom window will be displayed along with the images (see col. 3 lines 32-55; col. 6 lines 19-65). In light of the teaching from Yanker, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the information processing apparatus disclosed in Lee, as

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modified by Anderson, by providing line drawing input means associated with selected images so as to allow additional information to be edited to the selected images without a separated editing process. The modification would provide the information processing apparatus of Lee and Anderson an editing system having the capability of user input anywhere on the image frame.

Conclusion

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ngoc-Yen T. Vu whose telephone number is 703-305-4946. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. – Fri. from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wendy R. Garber can be reached on 703-305-4929. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

NGOC-YEN VU PRIMARY EXAMINER

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NYV 09/03/2004